

The following is a message distributed through the Consular Warden System of U.S. Embassy Almaty.

Warden Message

Kabul

January 29, 2006

The U.S. Embassy has learned that there is an active kidnapping threat against "internationals" working in Kabul. While it is not clear whether those planning the kidnapping have criminal or terrorist motives, the Embassy understands that the group is targeting a female expatriate. If, when executing the attack, the group is unable to seize a female, they may well seize a male expatriate. The Embassy therefore urges all American citizens in Kabul to maintain a high level of vigilance, continue to restrict their movements, observe the strictest of security measures, defer any unnecessary travel around the city, and to take appropriate steps to increase their security posture and awareness. The Embassy particularly recommends that U.S. citizens in all parts of Afghanistan avoid traveling alone at any time.

From time to time, the Embassy places areas frequented by foreigners off limits to its personnel depending on current security conditions. Visits to restaurants and hotels are restricted to official business with prior approval from the security office. Unofficial travel is limited during daylight hours and is forbidden after dark. The Embassy cautions against movements in other potential target areas, such as:

- Key national or international government establishments;
- National or international military facilities, including ISAF;
- Locations popular with the international community, including restaurants and Internet cafes; and
- Areas with high population density, i.e. bazaars.

The Embassy currently is permitting official Americans to travel on Jalalabad Road, but only for official business and after receiving permission from Embassy security.

Americans in Afghanistan are urged to monitor the local news and maintain contact with the U.S. Embassy in Kabul. As the Embassy continues to develop information on any potential security threats to U.S. citizens in Afghanistan, it will share them with the American community via the Warden System. We take this opportunity to remind the community of the continuing threats outlined in the current Travel Warning for

Afghanistan and Worldwide Caution Public Announcement. The full text of each can be found at [<http://travel.state.gov/>](http://travel.state.gov/). Updated information may also be obtained by contacting the American Embassy in Kabul at usconsulkabul@state.gov [<mailto:usconsulkabul@state.gov>](mailto:usconsulkabul@state.gov) or by calling the Consular Section on 070-20-1908.

The Department of State also shares information through its consular information program documents, available on the Internet at [<http://travel.state.gov>](http://travel.state.gov). In addition to information on the Internet, U.S. travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444.